

Remarks

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 15, 18, 20 and 22 have been amended. Favorable consideration and allowance of all the remaining claims, namely claims 1, 5-15, and 18-26 is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing Amendment and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has noted objections to certain informalities in claims 7, 20 and 22. Those informalities have been corrected by the foregoing Amendment.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 40 as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as the term “pure” is considered new matter. By the foregoing amendment, claims 3 and 40 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 6, 14-16, 19 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,214,375 to Modi.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 4, 5, 9-13, 17, 18, and 23-26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter, and, as this is a final rejection, Applicant has amended the claims to rewrite the allowable claim 4 as independent claim 1, and allowable claim 17 as independent claim 15.

Accordingly, in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, and as previously argued, it is respectfully requested that claims 1, 5-15, and 18-26 be allowed.

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Response to Final Official Action

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen P. McNamara", is written over a horizontal line.

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